

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1-3. (cancelled)

Claim 4. (currently amended) A method for selectively allocating or deallocating bandwidth between a first media aggregation manager and a second media aggregation manager of conveying changes in projected link utilization responsive to path selection, the method comprising:

displaying first graphical representations of said a first media aggregation manager and said a second media aggregation manager, the first and second media aggregation managers capable of serving as reservation session aggregation points on behalf of a first user community and a second user community, respectively, the first user community and the second user community communicatively coupled by plurality of physical paths through which media packets may be exchanged by way of one or more packet forwarding devices;

displaying a first projected link utilization schedule in response to a first request to analyze the effect of conveying media packets between the first user community and the second user community over a first path of the plurality of physical paths, the first projected link utilization schedule illustrating predicted bandwidth usage for one or more routers associated with the first path; ~~and~~

displaying a second projected link utilization schedule in response to a second request to analyze the effect of conveying media packets between the first user community and the second user community over a second path of the plurality of physical paths, the second projected link utilization schedule illustrating predicted bandwidth usage for one or more routers associated with the second path [[.]]; and

displaying second graphical representations for allocating or deallocating bandwidth between the first media aggregation manager and second media

aggregation manager based on said displayed first projected link utilization schedule and said displayed second projected link utilization schedule.

Claim 5. (original) The method of claim 4, further comprising overlaying a selected path of the plurality of physical paths onto existing bandwidth allocations to determine a projected link utilization associated with the selected path.

Claim 6-23. (cancelled)

Claim 24. (currently amended) A machine-readable storage medium stored thereon data representing sequences of instructions which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to;

display first graphical representations of a first media aggregation manager and a second media aggregation manager, the first and second media aggregation managers capable of serving as reservation session aggregation points on behalf of a first user community and a second user community, respectively, the first user community and the second user community communicatively coupled by the plurality of physical path through which media packets may be exchanged by way of one or more packet forwarding devices;

display a first projected link utilization schedule in response to a first request to analyze the effect of conveying media packets between the first user community and the second user community over a first path of the plurality of physical paths, the first projected link utilization schedule illustrating predicted bandwidth usage for one or more routers associated with the first path; ~~and~~

display a second projected link utilization schedule in response to a second request to analyze the effect of conveying media packets between the first user community and the second user community over a second path of the plurality of physical paths, the second projected link utilization schedule illustrating predicted bandwidth usage for one or more routers associated with the second path [[:]]; and

displaying second graphical representations for allocating or deallocating bandwidth between the first media aggregation manager and second media aggregation

manager based on said displayed first projected link utilization schedule and said displayed second projected link utilization schedule.

Claim 25. (original) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 24, further comprising instructions to overlay a selected path of the plurality of physical paths onto existing bandwidth allocations to determine a projected link utilization associated with the selected path.

Claim 26-71. (cancelled)

Claim 72. (original) The method of claim 4, wherein said displaying a first projected link utilization and displaying a second link utilization comprises displaying the first path and the second path prioritized based upon one or more predetermined factors.

Claim 73. (original) The method of claim 72, wherein one or more predetermined factors include one or more of;

- a number of nodes in the first path or the second path;
- total available bandwidth for the first path or the second path;
- available communications bandwidth on the first path or the second path;
- propagation speed between nodes that make up the first path or the path; and
- physical length of travel between nodes that make up the first path or the second path.

Claim 74. (original) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 24, wherein said instructions further cause said processor to display said first link utilization schedule and said second link utilization schedule of the first path and the second path in a prioritized fashion based upon one or more predetermined factors.

Claim 75. (original) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 74, wherein one or more predetermined factors include one or more of;

- a number of nodes in a path;

total available bandwidth for a path;
available communications bandwidth on a path;
propagation speed between nodes that make up a path; and
physical length of travel between nodes that make up a path.

Claim 76. (currently amended) A method for selectively allocating or deallocating bandwidth between a first network device and a second network device of conveying changes in projected link utilization responsive to path selection, the method comprising:

displaying first graphical representations of said a first network device and said a second network device[[s]], the first and second network devices capable of serving as reservation session aggregation points on behalf of a first group of terminals and a second group of terminals, respectively, the first group of terminals and the second group of terminals communicatively coupled by a plurality of physical paths through which media packets may be exchanged by way of one or more packet forwarding devices;

displaying a first projected link utilization schedule in response to a first request to analyze the effect of conveying media packets between the first group of terminals and the second first group of terminals over a first path of the plurality of physical path, the first projected link utilization schedule illustrating predicted bandwidth usage for one or more routers associated with the first path; ~~and~~

displaying a second projected link utilization schedule in response to a second request to analyze the effect of conveying media packets between the first group of terminals and the second group of terminals over a second path of the plurality of physical path, the second projected link utilization schedule illustrating predicted bandwidth usage for one or more routers associated with the second path [[.]]; and

displaying second graphical representations for allocating or deallocating bandwidth between the first network device and second network device based on said

displayed first projected link utilization schedule and said displayed second projected link utilization schedule.

Claim 77. (original) The method of claim 76, further comprising overlaying a selected path of the plurality of physical paths onto existing bandwidth allocations to determine a projected link utilization associated with the selected path.

Claim 78. (original) The method of claim 76, wherein said displaying a first projected link utilization and displaying a second link utilization comprises displaying the first path and the second path prioritized based upon one or more predetermined factors.

Claim 79. (original) The method of claim 78, wherein one or more predetermined factors include one or more of;

- a number of nodes in the first path or the second path;
- total available bandwidth for the first path or the second path;
- available communications bandwidth on the first path or the second path;
- propagation speed between nodes that make up the first path or the second path;

and

- physical length of travel between nodes that make up the first path or the second path.

Claim 80. (currently amended) A method for selectively allocating or deallocating bandwidth between a first network device and a second network device ~~of conveying changes in projected link utilization responsive to path selection~~, the method comprising:

displaying first graphical representations of said a first network device and said a second network device, the first and second network devices capable of serving as reservation session aggregation points on behalf of a first group of terminals associated with a first enterprise location and a second group of terminals associated with a second enterprise location, respectively, the first group of terminals and the second group of

terminals communicatively coupled by a plurality of physical paths through which media packets may be exchanged by way of one or more packet forwarding devices;

displaying a first projected link utilization schedule in response to a first request to analyze the effect of conveying media packets between the first group of terminals and the group of terminals over a first path of the plurality of paths, the first projected link utilization schedule illustrating predicted bandwidth usage for one or more routers associated with the first path; ~~and~~

displaying a second projected link utilization schedule in response to a second request to analyze the effect of conveying media packets between the first group of terminals and the second group of terminals over a second path of the plurality of physical paths, the second projected link utilization schedule illustrating predicted bandwidth usage for one or more routers associated with the second path [[.]]; and

displaying second graphical representations for allocating or deallocating bandwidth between the first network device and second network device based on said displayed first projected link utilization schedule and said displayed second projected link utilization schedule.

Claim 81. (original) The method of claim 80, further comprising overlaying a selected path of the plurality of physical paths onto existing bandwidth allocations to determine a projected link utilization associated with the selected path.

Claim 82. (original) The method of claim 80, wherein said displaying a first projected link utilization and displaying a second link utilization comprises displaying the first path and the second path prioritized based upon one or more predetermined factors.

Claim 83. (original) The method of claim 82, wherein the one or more predetermined factors include one or more of;

a number of nodes in the first path or the second path;

total available bandwidth for the first path or the second path;
available communications bandwidth on the first path or the second path;
propagation speed between nodes that make up the first path or the second path;
and
physical length of travel between nodes that make up the first path or the second path.

Claim 84. (currently amended) A method for selectively allocating or deallocating bandwidth between a first network device and a second network device of conveying changes in projected link utilization responsive to path selection, the method comprising;

displaying first graphical representations of said a first network device at an edge of a first local area network on which a first set of terminals runs a first set of local applications on behalf of which the first network device is configured to act as a signaling and control proxy and said a second network device at an edge of a second local area network on which a second set of terminals runs a second set of local applications on behalf of which the second network device is configured to act as a signaling and control proxy, the first and second network devices capable of serving as reservation session aggregation points on behalf of a first group of terminals and the second group of terminals , respectively, the first group of terminals and the second group of terminals communicatively coupled by a plurality of physical paths through which media packets may be exchanged by way of one or more packet forwarding devices;

displaying a first projected link utilization schedule in response to a first request to analyze the effect of conveying media packets between the first group of terminals and the second group of terminals over a first path of the plurality of physical paths, the first projected link utilization schedule illustrating predicted bandwidth usage for one or more routers associated with the first path; ~~and~~

displaying a second projected link utilization schedule in response to a second request to analyze the effect of conveying media packets between the first group of terminals and the second group of terminals over a second path of the plurality of physical paths, the second projected link utilization schedule illustrating predicted bandwidth usage for one or more routers associated with the second path [[.]]; and

displaying second graphical representations for allocating or deallocating bandwidth between the first network device and second network device based on said displayed first projected link utilization schedule and said displayed second projected link utilization schedule.

Claim 85. (original) The method of claim 84, further comprising overlaying a selected path of the plurality of physical paths onto existing bandwidth allocations to determine a projected link utilization associated with the selected path.

Claim 86. (original) The method of claim 84, wherein said displaying a first projected link utilization and displaying a second link utilization comprises displaying the first path and the second path prioritized based upon one or more predetermined factors.

Claim 87. (original) The method of claim 86, wherein the one or more predetermined factors include one or more of;

- a number of nodes in the first path or the second path;
- total available bandwidth for the first path or the second path;
- available communications bandwidth on the first path or the second path;
- propagation speed between nodes that make up the first path or the second path;
- and
- physical length of travel between nodes that make up the up the first path or the second path.